



'I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.' Phil 4:13

Dates for diary (Please also see Weduc Calendar and Newsfeeds)

[School Holiday sheets available from the office](#)

For sports festivals for your child's class, please see additional messages from Mrs Jennings our sports lead and class teachers too.

Every Tuesday Morning: Toddler Group 9.15- 10.45am. £3 per session. All very welcome!

Monday 11th May- Thursday 14th May SATs Week Y6

Monday 18th May—Y6 Orienteering

Thursday 21st May—Larks Celebration of the Word
(All Welcome)

Sunday 24th May- Pentecost Sunday (End of Eastertide)

Barnard Castle Meet Parade Monday 25th May.

Monday 1st June 2026 4pm - New Starters Welcome Information
Night 4pm- 5pm. Additional info will be sent to parents via the office.

Wednesday 10th June- 6 week transition afternoons begin (see dates on newsletter for further info)

Wednesday 17th June Y5 Taster Day St John's

Monday 29th June Year 6 YM Festival, Allensford

Friday 3rd July- End of Year Reports sent out

Monday 13th July- Sports Afternoon 1.15pm

Friday 10th July- Y6 Annual Sleepover- further details to follow
Summer Half Term 22.5.26—29.5.26

First Holy Communion Mass Sunday 7th June

Owls' Residential Visit to Lockerbie 24.6.26—26.6.26

Owls Performance Tuesday 7th July times tbc

Thursday 16th July Y6 Leaver's Assembly 2.30pm

Friday 17th July- Mass at St Mary's Church 10am

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Happy birthday this week to Thora, Morgan and Bodhi.
We hope you have a fabulous birthday weekend!



Transition Afternoons 2026

As always our new starters and children across school who are moving year groups will have their 6 weekly transition afternoons on the following dates:

Transition Afternoon 1: Wednesday 10th June

Transition 2: Wednesday 17th June

Transition 3: Wednesday 24th June (*this session Owls are on residential. Y4 will have their session as planned with Mrs Lewandowski*)

Transition 4: Wednesday 1st July

Transition 5: Wednesday 8th July

Transition 6: Wednesday 15th July.

**Transition 6 will be the Teddy Bear's Picnic for our new nursery starters and reception starters together. Children are encouraged to bring along a favourite teddy from home and enjoy a shared picnic as part of this transition afternoon.*

Each afternoon session will be at the same time every week from **1.15pm- 3.15pm**. Children will go back to their own classrooms for usual home time arrangements for 3.30pm.

Thankyou Parents- we are looking forward, as always to welcoming our new children in Reception Class. Once again, this year we have a full cohort of 15 children.

Staffing next year will remain the same in each year group:

- Miss Pryke: EYFS
- Miss North: Year 1 and 2 (Larks)
- Mrs Jennings Year 3 and 4 (Swifts)
- Mrs Porter Year 5 and 6 (Owls)

Family Mass Dates for 2025-2026

Each term here at St Mary's we gather together for our 'Family Mass' with Father Thomas, at St Mary's Catholic Church in Barnard Castle.

Parents, Grandparents, friends and family are all very welcome to join us- catholic or non- catholic, you are all so welcome and we do encourage you (if you can) to come along and join us.

The dates for your diary are as follows:

- ◆ **Autumn Term Mass: Thursday 18th September 2025** Thank you to everybody who joined us for Mass!
- ◆ **Spring Term Mass: Thursday 12th March 2026**
Thank you to all who were able to attend.
- ◆ **Summer term Mass : Friday 17th July 2026**

Each Mass will be at 10am. Hope to see you there.

Thankyou.



St Mary's Catholic School Weekly Newsletter

We are journeying together during Eastertide



8.05.26

Email: office@stmarysbc.bhcet.org.uk
<https://stmarysbc.bhcet.org.uk>

Our Trust Virtues

Our Trust Virtues are weaved into all areas of our curriculum, and everything we do here at St Mary's. It is important that as we teach the virtues to our children that they have a good understanding of the vocabulary as well as what that looks like in themselves, in

others, in our school. Here are the 8 Virtues that we promote and celebrate as a school community:

- ◆ Respect
- ◆ Responsibility
- ◆ Justice
- ◆ Compassion
- ◆ Self Belief
- ◆ Resilience
- ◆ Honesty
- ◆ Confidence



These virtues link closely to our Catholic Social Teaching Principles (CST) that underpin everything we do as a school, and as a Trust.

Attendance this week

'Minutes count, Attendance Matters!'

- Robins-95.3%
- Larks- 97%
- Swifts- 96%
- Owls- 98.5%



School holidays during term time will not be authorised. Our attendance policy is available on our website for further information.

Please don't let your child miss out on the education they deserve.

Every day. Every pupil. Every minute!
Make it count!

Barnard Castle Meet Parade 2026 Monday 25th May 2026



Huge thank you to Mrs Porter for leading the preparation for the Meet Parade this year and to all of the parents who are able to support us with the costumes etc.

We could not take part if it wasn't for your enthusiasm and commitment to ensuring we make these lovely links as a school, within our local community.

Thankyou!

A very happy birthday to Sir David Attenborough who celebrates his 100th birthday today! I hope the children enjoy their creative homework linked to this special day as a nod to the inspiration and knowledge he has shared over the years to both children and adults. Any 'connecting to nature' photographs from over the weekend you would like to share with me then please do- we would love to see them!



TIME TO SHINE!!



Next week our Year 6 children and all other children in Year 6 across the country will sit their SATs tests. As always, here at St Mary's we know our children shine everyday as an outcome of quality first teaching and their wonderful willingness to learn.

Homework this week by order of both Mrs Porter and I is to...

Relax

Spend time outside doing the things you love

Have a little cheeky sweet treat or two and remember ...

'I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me!' (Phil 4:13)

You've got this Year 6- be confident, give your best and remember these tests do not define who you are and tell us nothing we don't already know... that you are all- each and every one of you, just fabulous!!

Enjoy your weekend Year 6—see you Monday!
Mrs Porter, same applies to you- switch off and enjoy your weekend too! Get yourself in your garden!